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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/806,311	03/22/2004	Matthew F. Ogle	3126.01US03	7280
62274 7590 08/16/2007 DARDI & ASSOCIATES, PLLC 220 S. 6TH ST. SUITE 2000, U.S. BANK PLAZA MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			EXAMINER NGUYEN, VI X	
			ART UNIT 3734	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/16/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/806,311

Applicant(s)

OGLE, MATTHEW F.

Examiner

Victor X. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 and 20-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-27 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14, 28 and 29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2004, 2006.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims 20-27 drawn to non-elected inventions. In 8/6/2007, applicant elected to prosecute Group I that associated with claims 1-14 and new claims 28-29. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement.

Applicant's election with traverse of Group III is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the examiner has not addressed how the invention (s) in Group I is distinct from the invention(s) in group III. The search and examination of the two groups can be made without serious burden. This is found not persuasive because the Examiner has found in this case the process as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different apparatus, such as an apparatus may be used as a retractor for removing debris. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. The requirement is deemed proper and is therefore made **Final**.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. In claim 9, the

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original specification does not provide support for the claim of *the fibers are grafted with a second polymer*. Clarification is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1,5-8,12-14 and 28-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Purdy (U.S.5,693,067).

Purdy discloses in figures 7,10, 11, an embolism protection device having the limitations of the above listed claims, including: a plurality of fibers 108 which has surface capillaries and are bound within a structure which has a deployed configuration that fills the lumen of a vessel having a diameter corresponding to the human vessel, where the fibers are within a fabric (see col. 7, lines 33-35), where the fibers are curled (the curled locates at the tip of element 110) and are in a bundle at best seen in figs. 10,11, and where the device further comprises a tether which is a guidewire 4, and where the device is capable to attach to the tether with an adhesive (see col. 8, lines 36-45).

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Claims 1,5,13,14 and 28-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Macoviak et al. (U.S.6,395,014).

Macoviak discloses in figure 1, an embolism protection device having the limitations of the above listed claims, including: a plurality of fibers 112 which has surface capillaries and are bound within a structure which has a deployed configuration that fills the lumen of a vessel having a diameter corresponding to the human vessel, where the fibers are within a fabric (see col. 5, lines 28-38), where the device further comprises a tether which is a guidewire 104, and where the device is capable to attach to the tether with an adhesive at best seen in fig. 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Purdy (U.S. 5,693,067).

Purdy discloses the invention substantially as claimed. However, Purdy is silent regarding the fibers comprises a hydrophilic polymer, polyester, or a bioresorbable polymer. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the fibers comprises a hydrophilic polymer, polyester, or a bioresorbable polymer, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use or as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

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Regarding to claim 11, Purdy is silent regarding the structure has an effective pore size to trap emboli with a diameter larger than 0.2 mm while a majority of particulates with a diameter smaller than 0.001 mm pass. Nevertheless, Purdy does disclose an embolism device that has a structure with an effective pore size, where changes in the size of a component involve merely routine skill in the art. Applicant has not disclosed that such an expansion diameter of the device is to solve a particular problem or is for any stated purpose and it appears that other expansion diameter of the device would work equally well in embolism protection device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make Purdy's device with a structure that has a diameter of at least 0.2 millimeters, which allows the particulates with a diameter of no more than about 0.001 millimeters to flow through the device.

Conclusion

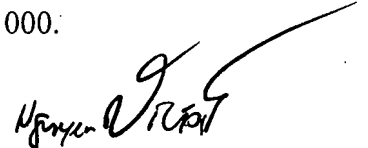
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor X. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4699. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4.30 P.M).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-4697. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Victor X Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 3734



VN
8/10/2007



MICHAEL J. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER